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E.O. 12958: DECL: 09/08/2011 TAGS: PREL PHUM KAWC SR LG

SUBJECT: LATVIA FIRM ON NEED FOR FULL SERBIAN COOPERATION

WITH ICTY

**REF: STATE 146343** 

Classified By: Charge d'affaires a.i. Phillip L. Antweiler.

Reason: 1.4 (D)

(C) Pol/econ chief delivered reftel points to Veronika Erte, A/S-level official responsible for EU issues and the Balkans at the MFA September 8. Erte agreed that, especially in light of attempts to resolve Kosovo this year, Serbia needed a clear European and Euro-Atlantic perspective. However, lack of full cooperation with the ICTY remained a serious obstacle and one that could not be set to the side. She cautioned, however, that Latvia had few ways to deliver such a message directly to Serbia. Pol/econ chief responded that Latvia should use its voice within the EU and NATO to urge full cooperation by Belgrade. Erte fully agreed.

Antweiler